

## VSH Governing Body Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2007, 1:30 pm

Medical Director's office

<b>Type of meeting:</b>	Oversight
<b>Facilitator:</b>	Michael Hartman, MH Commissioner
<b>Note taker:</b>	Denise McCarty
<b>Governing Body Members:</b>	Beth Tanzman, Deputy Commissioner of Mental Health; Patrick Flood (Designee for Secretary Cindy LaWare); William "Butch" Alexander, Dr. Bill McMains, Terry Rowe
<b>Attendees:</b>	Jessica Oski, Scott Perry Public: Michael Sabourin, Anne Donahue

**AGENDA TOPICS:** APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 7/18/07, UPDATE FROM MICHAEL HARTMAN; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT, QUALITY ASSURANCE REPORT; OTHER BUSINESS, PUBLIC COMMENT.

**Discussed:** The July 2007 meeting minutes were reviewed. JO recommended a minor correction, under the Executive Director's Report, it should say Doe vs. Miller **not** Dobie Miller WM motioned to accept the minutes with the correction; WA seconded the motion; All in favor; Minutes were approved.

**Conclusion:** 7/18/07 minutes were approved.

**Action:** WM motioned to accept the minutes; WA seconded the motion; motion was approved.

**Person Responsible:**

**Due Date:**

**Executive Director's Report (Terry Rowe)**

Protection from Harm Training – Staff, including Terry Rowe and Anne Jerman, Nursing Administrator will be trained in Protection from Harm recommended by the Department of Justice.

Improvements in Psychology Department – Amanda Goza, PhD. Psychologist has been hired to assist the Psychology Dept to achieve compliance with the DOJ and who has assisted other hospitals in the United States to become DOJ complaint.

Treatment Mall – A committee has been formed at VSH that includes Tommie Murray, Quality and Risk Management Chief to continue to develop a Treatment Mall of therapeutic services that will help patients develop skills that will enable them to re-enter the community successfully. Jeff Gellar will be returning to Vermont State Hospital on September 11<sup>th</sup> to provide assistance with the Treatment Mall. Patrick Kinner, Director of Therapeutic and Recovery Services will give a presentation on the current status of the Treatment Mall at the September Governing Body Meeting.

TR mentioned the error in the Burlington Free Press story regarding a VSH patient. The patient did not elope from the hospital but was on a short visit with a relative when he eloped. TR gave a summary of the use of short visits and an overview of the event that happened last week.

Discussion followed about VSH's weapons policy and whether taser guns were permitted in VSH by law enforcement. TR will consult with the legal unit but her belief, at this time, is that tasers would not be permitted.

End of Executive Director's Report)

**Conclusion:** n/a

**Action:**

**Person Responsible:** N/A

**Due Date:** N/A

**Discussed: Medical Director's Report (by Dr. Thomas Simpatico)**

There is no Medical Director's Report today because Dr. Simpatico is on vacation.

**Conclusion:** N/A

**Action:** N/A

**Person Responsible:** N/A

**Due Date:** N/A

**Discussed: Quality Management Report (Scott Perry)**

Scott Perry reviewed patient injuries data (see handout for more detailed information regarding the statistics below).

Patient injury - During July, 34 Patient Event/Injury reports were submitted, 12 of these were reports of injury and 3 were reports of cardio/respiratory events. 12 injuries were considered minor.

Employee injury - During July, 22 Employee Event reports were submitted and 16 were reports of injury. All of the injuries were considered minor.

Variance Reports - During July, 35 Variance Reports were filed.

Patient Grievances – During July, 11 Patient Grievances were submitted and investigated, and responses were provided to the patients involved.

TR mentioned that VSH distributed a Therapeutic Activities Survey to the patients and that if anyone wanted a copy of the survey, it would be made available. The committee reviewed the QA data of episodes of restraints and seclusions on all units. Discussion followed.

(End of Quality Management Report)

**Conclusions:** none

**Action:** n/a

**Person responsible:** n/a

**Due Date:**

**Other Business (Michael Hartman):**

Seclusion and Restraint Training - VSH had a meeting with Vermont Protection and Advocacy in July to discuss and develop a joint training on the VSH Emergency Involuntary Procedures Policy.

The final Department of Justice Report is back and will be posted on the Vermont Department of Health website this afternoon and will be emailed out to various people. The tone of the report is generally positive.

The Joint Commission Surveyors Visit – The report is primarily positive and they recommended that JACHO visit VSH for an official inspection early next year. VSH is requesting a more elaborate report from the surveyors than they have currently given us.

Second Spring placement – an update was given on patient placement at Second Spring and the committee had a discussion on whether Sheriff's should be called to assist in the transport of patients to Second Spring. The possibility of court Orders of Non-Hospitalization to be placed at Second Spring and the criteria for placement were also discussed.

(End of Other Business Report)

**Conclusions:** none

**Action:** n/a

**Person responsible:** n/a

**Due Date:** n/a

**Public Comment:** AD voiced concerns that forced placement at Second Spring was not part of original negotiations when discussing opening Second Spring and transferring VSH patients to Second Spring.

July Meeting Minutes – AD said that she was asked at the July meeting to provide written public comment and that she did not ask to submit written comments.

Concerns about why it is thought that pens are more dangerous for patients to have instead of pencils which can be broken in half and then have sharp edges.

How many root cause analysis have been done over the year?; concerns of on-going conflicts of interest, specifically, VSH paying a consultant that also works as a consultant for the DOJ, also concerns of conflicts with working with Fletcher Allen consultants.

Concerns about restraint and seclusion data and how it is currently being presented and tracked.

MS - had questions about use of restraints on patients by VSH staff and suggested that we track the use of restraints to make sure they are validated/warranted by staff. He also had concerns about grievance procedures and responses by Quality Assurance and Nursing to some of the grievances submitted by patients.

Motion made by William Alexander to amend the July minutes to reflect that Anne Donahue was asked to provide written public comments not that she requested to submit written comments. Bill McMains seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

**Conclusions:** July Minutes amended

**Action:** Motion made by William Alexander to amend the July minutes. Bill McMains seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously

**Person responsible:** WA and WM

**Due Date:** n/a

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm. The next meeting will be on **September 19, 2007 at 1:30 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Denise McCarty  
Minute Taker